

RURAL DISTRICT of BUCKINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the year

1963

List of Parishes in the Council's Area

Addington	Marsh Gibbon
Adstock	Middle Claydon
Akeley	Padbury
Barton Hartshorne	Poundon
Beachampton	Preston Bissett
Biddlesden	Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Charndon	Shalstone
Chetwode	Steeple Claydon
Edgcott	Stowe
Foxcote	Thornborough
Hillesden	Thornton
Leckhampstead	Tingewick
Lillingstone Dayrell	Turweston
Lillingstone Lovell	Twyford
Luffield Abbey	Water Stratford
Maids Moreton	Westbury

1963

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Council :

G. J. BECKETT, ESQ.

General Purposes Committee

Chairman :

A. HODGES, ESQ.

Members :

W. G. Beckett, Esq.
C. Bryant, Esq.
S. W. Chapman, Esq.
S. M. Cotton, Esq.
W. D. Crawley, Esq.
Mrs. M. S. Crook.
J. Davies, Esq.
W. Durrant, Esq.

W. S. Leyland, Esq.
T. S. Mitchinson, Esq.
G. P. Purefoy, Esq.
D. A. Stewart, Esq.
Rev. W. J. Waker.
Mrs. N. White.
A. J. Woods, Esq.
H. H. S. Wright, Esq.

G. J. Beckett, Esq. and A. Hodges, Esq.

ex-officio members.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

D. H. WALDRON,

O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Newport Pagnell and Winslow, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

R. M. LASLETT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. C. SHARPE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy :

K. E. RICHARDSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Administrative Assistant :

C. H. BRAY.

Student Public Health Inspector :

T. J. AYRES.

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SCHOOL LANE,
BUCKINGHAM.

15th June, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of Buckingham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

The corrected Birth Rate of 19.6 compares very favourably with that for the County and is higher than that for the rest of the Country.

The Death Rate although showing a slight rise on last year, is still over 2 points below the national rate. Of the total of 94 deaths, Heart and Allied Diseases and Cancer accounted for 65.

The Infantile Mortality Rate again shows a satisfactory drop. There were two deaths in this group, both under the age of four weeks.

I should like to record again another year of happy co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Floyd, your Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Sharpe, and their staffs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
DANIEL H. WALDRON.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics

	1962	1963
Area (in acres)	54,543	54,543
Population	9,430	9,440
Number of Inhabited Houses ..	2,797	2,820
Rateable Value	£102,063	£106,164
Rate per £	22/2	9/-
Estimated Sum represented by a 1d. Rate	£375/14/3	£1,105/4/7
Births :		
Legitimate—Males ..	88	72
,, Females ..	58	70
Illegitimate—Males ..	4	2
,, Females ..	2	2
Birth rate per 1000 population	17.9	19.6
Do. (Bucks.)	19.2	19.2
Do. (England & Wales)	18.0	18.2
Deaths—Males	52	55
,, Females	40	39
Death rate per 1,000 population	8.9	10.0
Do. (Bucks.)	9.6	9.9
Do. (England & Wales)	11.9	12.2
Maternal Mortality Rate ..	Nil	Nil
Do. (England & Wales)	0.35	0 28
Infantile Mortality		
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age :		
per 1,000 live births ..	26.3	13.7
Ditto for Bucks ..	17.9	17.6
Ditto for England & Wales	21.4	20.9
Still Births	4	1

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH :	1962			1963		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0	1	1	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	11	8	19	7	7	14
Diabetes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	9	10	19	3	7	10
Heart Disease	14	11	25	23	14	37
Other Circulatory Diseases...	3	1	4	1	0	1
Bronchitis	3	1	4	3	2	5
Pneumonia	1	2	3	1	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	0	0	1	0	1
Digestive Diseases	0	0	0	1	1	2
Nephritis	2	1	3	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	1	2	3	0	0	0
Accidents	3	0	3	7	0	7
All other Causes	5	3	8	8	7	15
TOTALS	<u>52</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>94</u>

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, as in previous years. Specimens for qualitative and quantitative analysis had to be sent to London.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This radio controlled service, administered by the County Health Department, has a main station at Bletchley and sub-stations at Buckingham, Wolverton and Newport Pagnell, to cover the North Bucks Area. The service deals with all types of cases, general, accident and infectious disease.

3. NURSING FACILITIES.

The District Nurses in the Buckingham Rural Area carried out their duties in their usual conscientious manner.

4. CLINICS.

(a) *Child Welfare Centres.* There are five static Welfare Centres serving the District, located as follows :

Buckingham (twice monthly)	Twyford (once monthly)
Steeple Claydon (do.)	Winslow (twice monthly)
Thornborough (once monthly)	

The work of the Mobile Welfare Unit continued during the year and the following villages were visited :

Akeley.	Leckhampstead.	Preston Bissett.
Adstock.	Lillingstone Dayrell.	Shalstone.
Calvert.	Maids Moreton	Thornton.
Chackmore.	Padbury.	Tingewick.
Charndon.		Westbury.

The District Nurse and Health Visitor attended each Session, and a Medical Officer attended once monthly. Immunizations against Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus, was carried out at all centres. During the year attendances by children totalled 3,315.

Once again I should like to pay tribute to the good work done at these Clinics by the members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committees.

(b) *Chest Clinic*.—The Clinic holds weekly sessions at Buckingham Hospital and is administered jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department. A chest physician attends each session. It is equipped with X-ray plant and is doing excellent work.

(c) *Orthopaedic Clinic*.—This clinic is organized by the Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford. It holds two sessions a month at the Town Hall, Buckingham, and an Orthopaedic surgeon attends alternate sessions.

5. HOSPITALS.

The following Hospitals served the area during the year :—

Buckingham Hospital.
Aylesbury Group.
Oxford Group.
Northampton Group.
Creaton Sanatorium.
Peppard Sanatorium.

6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, which for some time had been administered on behalf of the County Council by the Women's Voluntary Service, is now administered direct with three whole time Domestic Help Organizers covering the North Bucks Area.

During the year, 65 cases were assisted in the Buckingham area.

7. BACKWARD CHILDREN.

The County Medical Officer of Health has sent the following report :—" Children from Buckingham and surrounding areas continue to attend the Training Centre at Bletchley. Transport is provided and 14 children attend. For further information please refer to the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health for 1963."

ANNUAL REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The Bucks Water Board of which your Council is a constituent authority, continued to supply every parish with water.

The Engineer and Manager of the Bucks Water Board has supplied the following information :—

“(a) Mains extensions were carried out at :—

1. Church Lane, Padbury—3" diameter ... 94 yards.
2. Thornton Road, Beachampton—3" diameter ... 316 yards.

(b) There has been no change in treatment at the Foscote Works during the year and the water produced has been of satisfactory quality.

(c) There have been some difficulties with algal growths in the reservoir particularly in July when blue/green organisms were present in quantity and treatment of the reservoir with copper sulphate was required for their destruction.

Although the blue/green algal generate a very considerable taste in the water, the carbon filters removed this to a large degree and the taste of the outgoing water was at all times, reasonably satisfactory.

The average quantity of water treated daily at Foscote Works, was approximately 1.85 million gallons, although at times of peak demand, considerably more than 2 million gallons per day has been delivered and occasionally water was imported from Wycombe to maintain the supply.”

The average daily quantity of water supplied from the Foscote Treatment Works during the past five years is as follows :—

1959	1,518,000	gallons.
1960	1,500,000	„
1961	1,750,000	„
1962	1,798,000	„
1963	1,850,000	„

Sampling—Main Supply.

- (a) Quantity—satisfactory.
- (b) Quality—satisfactory.
- (c) 1. Samples taken from the supply (which fell into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading) I
- 2. Samples taken from mixed supply, i.e. partly main supply and partly private supply and found upon analysis to be satisfactory ... I
- (d) Estimated number of premises on supply ... 2672
- (e) Estimated number of population served ... 9185

Sampling—Other Sources.

- (a) Samples taken 7
- (b) Samples found upon analysis to be unfit ... 5
(in these cases informal action was taken with the owners of the property concerned to provide a wholesome supply).

During the year fifteen new dwellings and three existing dwellings (with no piped water supply) were connected to the Board's mains.

Summary of Results of Water Samples taken from other than Main Supply for Bacteriological Examination during the past Ten Years.

Year	No. of Samples taken and examined	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1954	12	4	8
1955	12	1	11
1956	4	3	1
1957	6	2	4
1958	13	5	8
1959	12	5	7
1960	16	8	8
1961	9	2	7
1962	7	2	5
1963	7	2	5
Totals	98	34	64
		65.3% unsatisfactory.	

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The streams and water courses in a number of the smaller villages are still polluted by drainage effluent and in dry weather a number of them consist almost entirely of sewage and they are a potential danger to health. Every effort is made with the small labour force available to keep them cleaned out. The only way to alleviate this pollution is for every village to be provided with modern sewage disposal arrangements. At the present rate of progress it will be a number of years before the district is rid of this pollution.

The Internal Drainage Board has carried out good work in the cleansing of lengths of the main water courses in the district, during the year.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Twyford.—The outstanding items were completed in respect of this scheme and the works operated satisfactorily during the year.

Charndon. Progress on the final details of this scheme has been slow. Proposals, however, were submitted to and approved by, the Charndon Parish Council, without objections. Details were also submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, who instructed an Engineering Inspector to investigate this scheme locally. Following this investigation, a report was received from the Ministry suggesting some minor alterations to details and requesting the submission of details concerning the agreement with the London Brick Company for the pumping station site. It is hoped that this scheme will now be finalised and that invitations to tender can be given early in the New Year.

Maids Moreton. Contractors were invited to tender for this scheme and the tender submitted by Messrs. J. E. Lucas Ltd., Northampton, in the sum of £20,927 18s. 9d. was accepted and approved. The contribution

to be made to the Buckingham Borough Council for the extension of the sewage disposal works being estimated at £18,000.

By the end of 1963 approximately 50% of the sewers had been laid and work was well advanced on the construction of the ejector station.

Preston Bissett, Westbury and Shalstone. The consultant engineers made progress towards the preparation of draft proposals for sewerage and sewage disposal in these three villages and it is hoped that the draft schemes will come before the Council early in the new year.

Stowe. A sub-Committee was appointed and discussion took place during the year at the request of the Bursar of Stowe School, regarding the provision of a joint sewage disposal scheme for the village of Dadford and Stowe School. It was stated that the existing works at the School had been in operation for many years and was now obsolete. New works were estimated to cost £21,500.

It was suggested that under a joint scheme sewage from Dadford could be pumped to a works to be constructed on land adjoining the present disposal works for the School and that the cost would be £23,500 approximately. It was thought that the equitable apportionment of the cost, based on the volume of sewage to be discharged to the works by the respective parties, would be as follows :—

School (750 population) £19,400.

R.D.C. (200 population) £6,100 including the sum of £2,000 for the additional length of pumping main over and above that for the village scheme.

The proposed joint scheme was agreed in principle.

Chackmore. Tenders were invited for the laying of an extension sewer to serve the Moors, Chackmore, comprising 175 lineal yards of 6 in. diameter sewer with three manholes. Tenders were received and the one submitted by Messrs. Bridgwater Bros., Epsom, in

the sum of £1,357 10s. 0d. accepted. It is hoped that this work will commence early in 1964.

The following villages are now provided with modern sewage disposal works and serve approximately 50% of the total population of the district :—

Chackmore.	Completed in 1939.
Steeple Claydon.	Completed in 1939.
Tingewick.	Completed during the War by the War Department and taken over by the Council in 1949. Extended in 1956 by War Department.
Thornborough.	Completed in 1953.
Marsh Gibbon.	Completed in 1956.
Adstock and Padbury.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden—Church End.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden—The Hamlet.	Completed in 1960.
Water Stratford.	Completed in 1959.
Akeley.	Completed in 1960.
Twyford.	Completed in 1963.

These works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and good effluent standards were maintained. The maintenance staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

Farm Effluents

After a number of Sub-Committee Meetings appointed for this purpose, the Council finally approved charges for the reception and treatment of farm wastes. These being as follows :—

Dairy Cow or Bull	... ..	£2. 15. 0. per annum.
Other bovines under 18 months	£1. 0. 0. per annum.	
Sows and Boars	... ..	£1. 10. 0. per annum.
Young pigs	... ..	15. 0. per annum.

During the year a survey was carried out to ascertain the number of farms connected to main sewerage and this was found to be 27. Of these, 25 made application for consent to discharge and two decided to disconnect.

The Council issued consent notices in each case and the charges varied according to stock carried and sewer usage, from £4 10s. 0d. to £88 10s. 0d.

General.

The River (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1961. The Minister of Housing and Local Government fixed the appointed day as 1st June 1963 under the above Act, after which date it became an offence to continue to discharge sewage or trade effluent into a stream unless the consent of the River Board concerned had been sought.

It was found necessary to make 32 applications in respect of your existing sewage disposal works and small sewage plants, to the Ouse and Thames River Boards respectively. These applications were all made before the 'appointed day.'

Safety in Sewers and at Sewage Works. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government drew Local Authorities' attention to a publication entitled 'Safety in Sewers and at Sewerage Works.'

A Sub-Committee was appointed by the Council to consider the various recommendations contained in the Ministry's booklet and to report thereon. The report was adopted.

4. WATER CLOSETS.

During the year 72 water closets have been installed by the owners of private properties as follows :—

New premises ...	21
Existing premises	51

All the 752 houses owned by the Council are provided with water closets. Additional internal water closets were installed during the year in each of 14 pre-War houses as part of conversion schemes involving the formation of bathrooms.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The weekly kerbside collection of household refuse throughout the District which has been in operation since October, 1961, continued during the year and despite the extremely severe weather conditions, with some villages isolated by deep snow drifts, the schedule

of collection was maintained.

The schedule of collection in operation is as follows :—

Every Monday— Beachampton ; Calvert ; Charndon ; Middle Claydon ; Thornborough and Thornton.

Every Tuesday— Addington ; Adstock ; Edgcott ; Padbury ; Steeple Claydon and Verney Junction.

Every Wednesday—Barton Hartshorne ; Biddlesden ; Chetwode ; Hillesden ; Preston Bissett ; Shalstone ; Turweston and Westbury.

Every Thursday— Chackmore ; Maids Moreton ; Marsh Gibbon ; Poundon ; Stowe and Twyford.

Every Friday— Akeley ; Foscote ; Leckhampstead ; Lillingstone Dayrell ; Lillingstone Lovell ; Radclive ; Tingewick and Water Stratford.

The collection schedule was carried out in the main by the use of the two 18 cubic yard Dennis Paxit rear loading vehicles, each with a crew of three men, 1 driver loader and 2 loaders. The 10 cubic yard Karrier side loader was used for relief work on refuse collection, tip maintenance and for general sewerage and estate maintenance work.

All three vehicles continued to give satisfactory service, although it was found necessary towards the end of the year to have a service replacement engine fitted in the original Paxit.

All refuse was disposed of by tipping in a disused clay pit at Calvert on land rented by the Council. This tip has been in use for the last six years and although a considerable quantity of refuse has been deposited there, a large area remains to be filled and this tip should meet the Council's requirements for a number of years.

No difficulty was experienced in keeping the tip in a presentable condition until the end of July, when a severe outbreak of fire occurred.

This certainly interfered with the working of the tip and it was found necessary to construct a new temporary roadway and to abandon the existing working area. By the end of the year the new area of the tip was in a presentable condition but the old area still smouldered.

A total quantity of 380 cubic yards of imported excavated material was used for covering purposes.

Regular inspections and treatments for rodents were carried out and the tip face sprayed with insecticides at frequent intervals, to keep fly nuisances to a minimum.

Notices were served during the year under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the owners and occupiers of 45 premises requiring them to provide a satisfactory dustbin. 38 bins were provided by the Council in default and an annual charge of 7s. 6d. made in respect of each dustbin provided.

Up to the 31st December, 1963, a total of 221 dustbins had been provided in default by the Council.

The total income from the sale of waste paper and scrap iron during the year amounted to £96 13s. 6d.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and cesspools continued to be carried out by contract at four-monthly intervals and has been executed in a satisfactory manner.

6. SCHOOLS.

Work on the second stage for the provision of extra classrooms, etc., at Marsh Gibbon Primary School, was commenced during the year.

Work was completed on the new Primary School at Padbury and the school was officially opened during the year.

The County Education Authority have indicated that works will commence on the provision of a new Primary School at Maids Moreton during the coming year.

It is indeed pleasing to note that the 16 village schools in the District are now provided with modern sanitation.

7. SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the Rural District but rural residents in the summertime, as well

as school children, used the open air one in the Borough of Buckingham.

8. RODENT CONTROL.

Work during the year by the rodent operative has again been carried out in a satisfactory manner :—

Work of Inspection and Control

(a) Number of Complaints received	...	...	124
(b) Number of Properties inspected and visits carried out	...	...	1055
(c) Number of properties found infested with rats	...	...	195
(d) Number of Properties found infested with mice	...	...	34

The revenue derived from treatment of business premises during the year amounted to £102 6s. 0d.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Maintenance Work and the Severe Winter. The turn over rate of persons engaged in general maintenance, refuse collection, sewage disposal, drainage and ditch cleansing, was appreciably lower than in previous years. No doubt the main reason for this was the Council's decision in 1961 to increase the hourly rate of wages.

Maintenance work was carried out in a satisfactory manner despite the loss of 272½ working days due to sickness.

I would like to record my thanks to your outside staff for the conscientious manner in which they carried out their duties, especially during the severe wintry weather of 1962/63. Despite the extreme conditions, when all the sewage disposal plants and works were frozen up, the roads blocked by snow and travelling extremely hazardous, every fit man reported for work. The sewage works attendants made their own way, on foot, to the works, some of which were cut off by deep snow drifts.

The collection of household refuse was carried out every day except one, although it had not always been

possible to maintain a weekly service to a few out-lying farms and houses.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. This Act comes into operation in 1964 and is to set standards of health, welfare and safety of employees in offices, shops and railway premises. The provisions relating to offices and certain kinds of railway premises are the first of their kind. At the same time the existing protection for shop workers is extended.

The Act sets out standards and it is the intention of the Minister to bring in Regulations some time next year to cover other items.

The Animals Boarding Establishments Act, 1963. This Act comes into force on 1st January 1964 and provides for a system of licensing and inspection by Local Authorities of any establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats or dogs is carried on.

Under the Act no person can keep a boarding establishment for animals unless he obtains a licence from the Local Authority on payment of a fee not exceeding 10s. 0d.

Air Pollution.

During the year the Council made representations to the Alkali Division of the Ministry regarding the emission of obnoxious fumes from the local Brickworks.

Doctor Grant, District Inspector of the Alkali Inspectorate, attended a meeting of the General Purposes Committee and advised the Committee of the investigations being carried out regarding this problem.

A brief summary of other inspections and visits made during 1963 is appended below :—

Total number of visits to premises	...	...	2578
Complaints received	...	...	18
Informal notices served	...	...	46
Statutory Notices served :			
Section 75, Public Health Act 1936	...	...	78
Section 9, Housing Act, 1957	...	...	1

FACTORIES ACT 1961.

The table below shows the position during 1963 as far as work-places and factories are concerned and the inspections made for purposes as to health and sanitation.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupier prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	3	10	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	18	1	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	23	28	1	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remenied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4) Bp H.M. Insyector (5)		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to Outwork). ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of The Act—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—Nil.

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

Number of Site Licences issued	...	...	...	7
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	52
Nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	—

DRAINAGE.

Good progress has been made in this field of operations and during the year alterations and the relaying of defective drainage systems were carried out at 40 existing premises.

Thirteen septic tanks, serving fourteen dwellings, were constructed during the year.

Number of New drains examined	...	...	98
Number of visits for that purpose	...	...	245
Number of W.C.'s installed	...	...	72
Number of new soil and ventilating pipes installed	...	...	49

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936.

During the licensing year 1963, four underground tanks were subjected to a pressure re-test. All of these tanks satisfied the test.

Number of Petroleum Licences, December 1963 :—

500 gallons or less	...	...	...	29
Over 500 gallons but not more than 1,000 gallons	...	...	...	8
Over 1,000 gallons	...	...	...	5
Total licences issued	...	...	...	42
Number of tests carried out	...	...	...	5
One new tank was installed and tested during the year.				

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enquiries in cases of infectious disease	...	...	15
Number of visits re disinfection	...	...	Nil

HOUSING AND BUILDING BYELAWS.

A total of 148 plans was deposited for byelaw approval during the year ; a reduction of 20 on the number deposited during 1962. 172 applications were made for Planning consent of which 39 were refused.

The work of building and planning control continues to take up much of the Department's time. It has become apparent that the existing inspectoral staff will not be able to cope much longer without extra assistance and the Council should consider the question of engaging an assistant in the Department for this aspect of the work.

Number of plans deposited for new houses	...	24
(Including 66 new housing units)		
Number of plans deposited for other works	...	124
Visits in connection with building byelaws	...	633

OTHER CLASSIFIED VISITS.

Housing visits under the Housing Acts	...	...	69
Housing visits under the Public Health Acts	...	...	16
Visits re water supply	...	...	13
Visits re drainage and sewerage	...	...	113
Visits re refuse collection	...	...	81
Visits re refuse disposal	...	...	112
Visits in connection with sewage disposal	...	...	455
Schools	...	...	11
General nuisances	...	...	36
Overcrowding	...	...	Nil
Visits to Shops and Licensed Premises	...	...	203
Visits to Canteens	...	...	6
Unclassified	...	...	34
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	8

SECTION D.

The total number of Council Houses erected Post War is now 453. The rate of progress during the year decreased slightly from that of the previous year, the figures for the last three years being 8, 18 and 8 respectively. By the end of the year two bungalows and 4 houses were under construction as compared with 4 houses and 6 bungalows the previous year.

Erection of Post War Council Houses up to December 1963

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Bungalows</i>	<i>Total Completed</i>	<i>Under Construction</i>
Adstock	16	—	16	—
Akeley	16	—	16	—
Beachampton	10	—	10	—
Biddlesden	4	—	4	—
Charndon	6	—	6	6
Chetwode	4	—	4	—
Edgcott	8	—	8	—
Hillesden	10	—	10	—
Leckhampstead	4	—	4	—
Lillingstone Lovell	4	—	4	—
Maids Moreton	15	—	15	—
Marsh Gibbon	28	2	30	—
Middle Claydon	4	—	4	—
Padbury	30	4	34	—
Poundon	3	—	3	—
Preston Bissett	17	2	19	—
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	4	—	4	—
Steeple Claydon... ..	62	45	107	—
Stowe	2	—	2	—
Thornborough	22	—	22	—
Thornton	4	—	4	—
Tingewick	51	17	68	—
Turweston	6	—	6	—
Twyford	28	4	32	—
Water Stratford	—	4	4	—
Westbury	17	—	17	—
Total	375	78	453	6

Total number of houses erected and occupied
during the year 1963 8
Total number of houses built and owned by the
Authority 752
Pre-War—299. Post-War—453.

Fifteenth Building Programme

The Council decided to erect 22 houses to form the 15th Building Programme as follows :—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>For Slum Clearance</i>	<i>General Needs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Maids Moreton ...	9	5	14
Twyford ...	6	—	6
Dadford ...	—	4	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15	9	24

Erection of Post War Houses by Private Enterprise up to December 1963

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Bungalows</i>	<i>Total Completed</i>	<i>Under Construction</i>	<i>By Other Authorities</i>
Akeley ...	1	4	5	2	
Adstock ...	16	1	17	—	
Barton Hartshorne ...	—	1	1	—	
Beachampton ...	4	—	4	—	
Biddlesden ...	5	2	7	—	
Charndon ...	5	13	18	—	
Chetwode ...	—	1	1	—	
Edgcott ...	2	1	3	—	
Hillesden ...	2	1	3	—	
Leckhampstead ...	1	—	1	—	
Lillingstone Lovell ...	—	2	2	—	
Maids Moreton ...	6	6	12	—	
Marsh Gibbon ...	9	6	15	3	
Middle Claydon ...	2	—	2	—	
Padbury ...	7	3	10	12	
Poundon ...	6	—	6	—	
Preston Bissett ...	—	2	2	1	
Radcliffe-cum-Chackmore	5	1	6	—	
Shalstone ...	1	2	3	—	
Steeple Claydon...	9	8	17	2	
Stowe ...	20	5	25	2	
Thornborough ...	5	5	10	1	
Thornton ...	—	2	2	—	
Tingewick ...	1	7	8	10	
Turweston ...	2	1	3	—	
Twyford ...	4	2	6	1	
Water Stratford...	1	1	2	—	
Westbury ...	11	4	15	—	
Total ...	125	81	206	34	Nil

Total number of houses erected and occupied	
during the year 1963	15
Houses erected by other Authorities and occupied	
during 1963	Nil

A total of 15 private enterprise dwellings was completed and occupied during the year as compared with 28 the previous year. By the end of 1963, 34 dwellings were in various stages of construction.

Improvement of Existing Council Houses.

During the year hot water systems were installed in 26 houses and conversion works for the provision of bathrooms, W.C., etc. were nearing completion in respect of a further 18 houses.

The total number of houses improved with the aid of Standard Grant up to the end of the year is 113.

A summary of the action taken with regard to Slum Clearance is shewn in the following table :—

SLUM CLEARANCE — First Programme

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN FROM OCTOBER 1955 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1963

Parish	Number of Unfit Houses in Slum Clearance Programme	Action Taken						Owned by Local Authority resolution to demolish	Informal Action	Action to be Taken — Remaining
		Clearance Area Made (Number of Premises)	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	Undertaking to make fit for human habitation	Demolished	Deleted from Programme	Represented and upon which action was deferred	
Adstock ...	8	8					8			Nil
Barton Hartshorne	1	1					1			Nil
Charndon ...	6									Nil
Hillesden ...	4	4					4			Nil
Maids Moreton	12†	3					3			Nil
Marsh Gibbon	6	6	1		3†		8			Nil
Padbury ...	8	2		2			4			2*
Preston Bissett	14	2	1	6				1	2	Nil
Steeple Claydon	1			1						Nil
Thornborough	9	3					5	3		Nil
Tingewick	8	4	1			3(1†)	4			Nil
Turweston	3						1		1	2
Twyford ...	12	5					12			Nil
Water Stratford ...	5	2			2†		2		1†	Nil
TOTALS ...	97†	38	3	10	8		52	4	6	4

NOTE.—* Action to be deferred during present tenant's lifetime.

† Rendered fit.

‡ Amended figure

The action taken in respect of the dwellings included in the First Slum Clearance Programme is almost the same as at the end of the previous year. Ninety-three properties out of the total of ninety-seven have been dealt with. Action on the remaining four properties being deferred by the Council.

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed without modification two Clearance Orders in respect of nine properties at Maids Moreton.

Formal representation in respect of three houses at Tingewick was made during the year and declared to be a Clearance Area.

Other Dwellings not included in the Slum Clearance Programme but dealt with during 1963.

- Tingewick ... 1 Cottage, Closing Order (Section 17).
- Marsh Gibbon 1 Demolition Order.

SLUM CLEARANCE — Second Programme

Summary of Action taken by 31st December, 1963.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Number of Unfit Houses in Programme</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>							<i>Action to be taken — Remaining</i>
		<i>Clearance Order made (Number of Premises)</i>	<i>Demolition Order Made</i>	<i>Closing Order Made</i>	<i>Undertaking not to Relet for Habitation</i>	<i>Undertaking to Render Fit for Habitation</i>	<i>Demolished</i>	<i>Represented and Under Consideration</i>	
Chetwode ...	4		1	1	2		1		
Hillesden ...	2								2
Maids Moreton	1								1
Padbury ...	2		2						
Stowe ...	1							1	
Thornborough	2								2
Tingewick ...	7	3	2			2			
Total ...	19	3	5	1	2	2	1	1	5

Houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister Pre-War but not yet demolished.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>No. still occupied</i>	<i>No. of persons in occupation</i>
Stowe ...	7	2	6

INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Houses found to be in a state unfit for habitation	16
Number of Houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation	2
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be re-let for habitation	2
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition order was made ... (Action in respect of one dwelling already taken Closing Order revoked and Demolition Order made).	7
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made	2
Number of houses found to be unfit and under consideration	1
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Clearance Order was made	3

OVERCROWDING.

No cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year.

THE HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.

As in previous years, the number of applications received for improvement grants, to say the least, is very disappointing.

There are a large number of dwellings in the district which still have a useful life but which are lacking in modern amenities and it would appear that pressure will have to be brought to bear and legislation introduced to compel owners to modernise.

Discretionary Improvement Grants. Seven applications for grants in respect of eight premises were made, all of which received approval and the maximum grant of 50% was recommended in each case.

The total grant aid approved during the year amounted to £2,457 0. 0. an average of £307 2. 6. per house.

Discretionary Grants—Completions

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings to be improved</i>	<i>Additional Units to be provided by conversion</i>
1951	1	—
1952	—	1
1953	—	—
1954	9	—
1955	16	2
1956	19	—
1957	19	—
1958	11	3
1959	12	—
1960	25	—
1961	27	3
1962	8	—
1963	5	—
	152	9

Number of Properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council during 1963 8

Amount of Grant Aid approved by the Council during 1963 £2,457 0. 0.

Total number of Properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to the 31st December 1963 180

Total amount of Grant Aid approved by the Council to the 31st December 1963 ... £55,204 18. 3.

Standard Improvement Grants.

Applications approved during 1963.

Parish	No. of Houses involved	Standard amenities to be provided				
		W.C.	Wash Basin	Bath in Bath-room	Hot Water supply	Food Store
Adstock	2	I	2	2	2	2
Edgcott	I	I	—	—	—	—
Maids Moreton ...	I	—	—	I	I	I
Marsh Gibbon ...	I	—	—	—	I	—
Steeple Claydon ...	I	I	I	—	I	I
Thornborough ...	I	I	I	I	I	I
Total	7	4	4	4	6	5

Up to the 31st December 1963, works for the provision of standard amenities have been completed in respect of 42 properties.

Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1963 (maximum) :—£780 0. 0.

Total number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December, 1963 : 49.

Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council to 31st December, 1963 (maximum) :—£5,440 0s. 0d.

Actual amount of grant paid by the Council to 31st December, 1963 :—£3,035 10s. 0d. in respect of 32 properties.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK.

A report was received during the year regarding a case of tuberculosis in a dairy cow. A herd test carried out by the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food revealed one reactor—a four-years-old Jersey cow in milk. The cow was slaughtered and on post mortem examination showed tubercular lesions in various lymph glands.

Prior to the herd test all milk produced at the farm was being sent for pasteurisation and no milk was consumed in its raw state.

Reports were also received regarding the existence of brucella in two dairy herds.

In both cases it was ascertained that milk from the herds was being sold partly to a pasteuriser and partly in its raw state and it was necessary to impose restrictions on the sale of the raw milk and divert all milk produced at the farm for pasteurisation until such time as the herds were clear of infection.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959.

Number of Dairies registered	...	...	...	1
Inspections	...	...	...	6

All dealer's licences, other than those issued by the Ministry are issued by the County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority.

ICE CREAM.

Total number of retailers on register	...	...	54
New applications received and Premises registered			2
Inspections	...	...	7

Samples of ice cream have been taken from premises serving ice cream to the public. These samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade I	...	...	...	...	I
Do. II	...	...	...	...	4
Do. III	...	...	...	...	Nil
Do. IV	...	...	...	...	Nil

This test affords a simple means for the grading of the bacteriological cleanliness of ice cream.

A sample iced lolly was submitted for analysis and the report showed no evidence of bacteriological infection.

MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. These Regulations came into force on 1st October and placed a statutory duty on Local Authorities to carry out 100% meat inspection at Slaughterhouses, the inspection to be carried out in accordance with the detailed requirements set out in the Regulations. Meat inspected and passed as fit for human consumption must be marked by the officer carrying out the inspection.

Meat cannot be removed from a slaughterhouse until it has been inspected.

The minimum period of notice of slaughter was extended from 3 hours to 24 hours.

Local Authorities could charge for inspection at the rates of :—

- 2s. 6d. per horse or bovine animal (other than a calf).
- 9d. per calf or pig.
- 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat.

The Council decided to make no charge.

During the year a total of 2,176 animals was slaughtered for meat in the two licensed private slaughterhouses in the district and I am pleased to state that once again 100% inspection of the meat after slaughter was carried out. The percentage increase of animals killed over the year 1962 was 6%. This was mainly due to animals being slaughtered for butchers outside the district.

It is with every satisfaction that I have to report for the fourth year in succession that no cases of tuberculosis were found in adult cattle slaughtered during the year.

As in 1962, there were three cases of localised cysticercosis.

Out of the total of 505 pigs slaughtered, 10 were found to be affected (with localized tuberculosis.) The percentage of the carcasses inspected, affected by tuberculosis, was 1.98, as compared with 2.69 the previous year.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in
whole or part :

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed ...	368	—	—	1303	505	—
Number inspected	368	—	—	1303	505	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	56	—	—	65	76	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	15.21	—	—	4.99	15.05	—
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	10	—
Percentage of the inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.98	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and tot- ally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Parts or Organs condemned are classified as follows :

	<i>Veal</i>	<i>Beef</i>	<i>Pork</i>	<i>Mutton</i>	<i>Total</i>
Whole Carcase ...	—	—	—	—	—
Plucks ...	—	—	1	2	3
Livers ...	—	47	34	46	127
Heads and Tongues	—	5	8	—	13
Hearts ...	—	3	14	5	22
Lungs ...	—	8	33	5	46
Part carcase ...	—	2	—	3	5
Miscellaneous ...	—	6	7	—	13

Approximate Total Weight 9 cwts. 2 qrs. 18½ lbs.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	...	...	2
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	157
Visits to Butchers' shops	...	...	161
Number of licensed slaughtermen	...	...	7

FOOD PREMISES.

The premises coming within the purview of the Regulations are summarised as follows :—

School Canteens	...	...	...	...	16
Private School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	5
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital Kitchens	...	...	...	...	Nil
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	...	5
Licensed Public Houses	...	...	...	...	35
Mobile Fish and Chip Vans	...	...	...	...	1
Shops—General Stores	...	...	...	...	40
Butchers	...	...	...	...	7
Bakers	...	...	...	...	1
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	113

A total of 217 visits and inspections was carried out at these premises during the year.

The standard of hygiene and cleanliness in the majority of the premises is reasonably good. There is

no doubt that the public generally are becoming more hygiene conscious.

Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are classified as follows :—

Ice Cream (registered for the storage and sale) ...	54
Mobile Vans (for frying of fish and chips) ...	1
Manufacture of Sausages	7

Frozen Foods. All premises retailing frozen foods were inspected during the year and shop keepers were made aware of the Code of Practice issued by the National Association of Frozen Food Producers. A copy of the Code of Practice was left with the retailers.

KNACKERS YARDS.

There are no licensed Knackers Yards in the district.

OTHER FOODS.

Other foods condemned during the year included the following :—One 4 lb. Tin Pork.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

All butchers' meat and other foods condemned as unfit are disposed of by burial under the control of the Department.

FOOD POISONING

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register	1
Number of visits	2
Contravention of Regulations	Nil

JOHN C. SHARPE,

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

GENERAL.

We had an outbreak of measles during the year, mostly in the first half. This formed part of a general epidemic throughout the country.

NOTIFICATIONS.

<i>Disease</i>	1963	1962
Erysipelas ...	1	—
Dysentery ...	1	—
Measles ...	178	9
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	4	5
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2
Whooping Cough	13	—
Total ...	197	16

CANCER.

There were 14 deaths during the year, 5 less than in 1962.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

DANIEL H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

